



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Grand Rapids, Michigan – June 28, 2007** – United States Attorney Charles R. Gross announced that Jon Jakari Franklin, age 29, of Lansing, Michigan, was sentenced yesterday to eight years in prison, to be followed by a three-year period of supervised release, for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g). The Honorable Robert Holmes Bell, Chief United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan, presided over the sentencing hearing.

On February 26, 2006, Lansing Police Department was dispatched to a domestic assault. Upon searching the residence, an SKS assault rifle was found under Franklin's bed. Franklin, a prior felon, was indicted by a federal Grand Jury. Franklin pled guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm on March 23, 2007.

Mr. Gross commended the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Lansing Police Department (LPD) for their work in the case. Their joint investigation was undertaken as part of the Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative. This case was prosecuted on behalf of the United States by Assistant United States Attorney Michael L. Schipper.

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